reduces an excessive Th1 immune response] steps of:

(a) obtaining a helminthic parasite preparation;

(b) producing a homogenate of said helminthic parasite preparation;

(c) separating fractions of said homogenate; and

(d) assaying a fraction of said homogenate for the presence of a biological activity that reduces an excessive Th1 immune response.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 24 wherein a fraction containing one or more components that reduce an excessive Th1 immune response is subjected to [the] one or more further [step] steps of fractionating and assaying, to identify a sub-fraction containing one or more components that reduce an excessive Th1 immune response.

29. (Amended) The method of claim [25] 24 wherein [said] fractionating is performed using one or more chromatographic separation techniques.

RESPONSE

Pending claims

Claims 24 to 32 are pending. Claims 1-23, 25, 27 and 33-35 are canceled without prejudice to pursuing these or related claims in a continuing or related application. Upon entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 24, 26, and 28-32 are presented for examination. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Support for the amended claims is found throughout the specification, and at least at page 9, paragraph 6.

The present invention is drawn to a method of screening a helminthic parasite preparation for one or more components that reduce an excessive Th1 immune response. Excessive Th1 responses are associated with a number of pathological conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. The invention relates to identifying compounds in a helminthic preparation that will reduce an excessive Th1 response by